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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that on June 30, 2003, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Michael Steele
Michael Steele

PATENT
Applicant: Richard Boyd
Serial No.: 09/977,074
Filed: October 12, 2001
Title: Diagnostic Indicator of Thymic Function

Examiner: M. A. Belyavskyl
Group Art Unit: 1644
Atty Docket No.: 156857/0042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed 12/31/02. Applicant respectfully requests a five-month extension of time. Please charge the small entity fee of \$985 for the five-month extension to Deposit Account No. 09-0946. Applicant acknowledges the restriction requirement. Applicant respectfully responds below to the restriction requirement without traverse. To begin with, Applicant cancels claims 1 – 37. However, Applicant hereby expressly reserves the right to prosecute claims 1 – 37 and similar or related claims in continuation and/or divisional applications. Applicant wishes to add new claims 38 - 81. In connection with the restriction requirement, Applicant has designated below in which group each claim appears to belong to.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 – 37 and add claims 38 - 81 as follows:

--38. A method for determining susceptibility of a patient's thymus to activation comprising:

a) disrupting sex steroid mediated signaling to the patient's thymus; and

07/24/2003 GDUCKETT 00000002 090946 b) assessing the level of an indicator of thymic activation in the patient.
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